

Nadder Community Energy

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 30th September 2021 at Victoria Hall, Tisbury and on Zoom

Present in person: Alan Maryon-Davis (AMD) (Chair), Sue Reed (SR) (secretary), Lucy Stone (LS) (director), Maggie Paul (MP) (director), Jamie Meldau (JM) (director),

Dick Budden, Elizabeth Forbes, Michael Whitaker, Suzanne Keene, Richard Ecclestone, Karen Ecclestone, Julie Phillips

Present by Zoom: 19 members/supporters: S Jonas, G Montes De Oca, S Uprichard, D and D May, A Graham, I Smout, I Birnie, S Wright, G Blundell, Roger Walker, Judith Hassey, Lynn Budden

Papers: Chair's report, Accounts for 2020-2021, Site Manager's report

1. The Chair welcomed everybody, in the Hall and online.
2. Apologies had been received from Michael Isaacs, Michael Steer, Graeme Begg, Maurice Prendergast, Rupert Janes and Kate Clark.
3. Minutes of last year's AGM (omitted from the proceedings, TBC).
4. Chair's Report: AMD presented his report in more detail than in the previously circulated paper. He emphasised the nature of a community benefit society such as NCE having a dual role as part business and part charity. As well as our energy business, generating renewable energy and providing an attractive rate of interest for our investors, our other role is to raise awareness of sustainability issues, develop new projects and build a fund for the benefit of our local community. AMD reported that NCE was moving ahead in all these areas as would be detailed later in the meeting.
5. Annual Accounts for 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021: TP presented the accounts, pointing out that the energy business side of NCE made an operating profit of £15,334 for the year. There was a question about members leaving their shares to named beneficiaries in their wills. **Action: SR** to investigate whether shares can be divided between beneficiaries. TP pointed out that grant-funded projects such as the car club monies are shown as 'restricted funds' and completely separate from NCE's energy

business. There was a question asking about car-club earnings from membership and hire, and it was explained that, due to lockdown, the club had not been launched to the public until after 31 March 2021. Resolution 1 to adopt the Accounts was put to the vote and duly approved..

6. Resolution 2: to authorise the directors to allocate up to £7000 to the community benefit fund for the current year was put to the vote and duly approved.
7. Election of directors: Maggie Paul and Alan Maryon-Davis stood down as per the Society's Rules, and were re-elected.
8. Presentation 1: Tisbury Electric Car Club from TECC team members Julie Phillips and Gustavo Montes de Oca. JP described how the pandemic restrictions had severely delayed and curtailed uptake of this Power-to-Change funded trial facility, but that numbers were slowly picking up. There was some discussion on electric car infrastructure improvements nationally and the use of the new chargers in Tisbury.
9. Presentation 2: Solar installations by Site Manager Richard Ecclestone reported on how NCE's solar installations outperformed MCS projections for the year 2020-21 thanks largely to an exceptionally sunny May in 2020.
10. Presentation 3: Renewable Heating for Schools. SR outlined this Rural Community Energy Fund feasibility study of heating systems in seven schools. Because of the high costs of conversion to heat pumps, only one school (St Gregory's, Marnhull, Dorset) was able to raise sufficient monies to go ahead.
11. Presentation 4 on external links to other groups and networking was given by MP.
12. Looking ahead: AMD spoke about possible new projects that NCE are looking into and reminded people to respond to Wiltshire Council's climate strategy consultation by 17 October.
13. There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.30pm